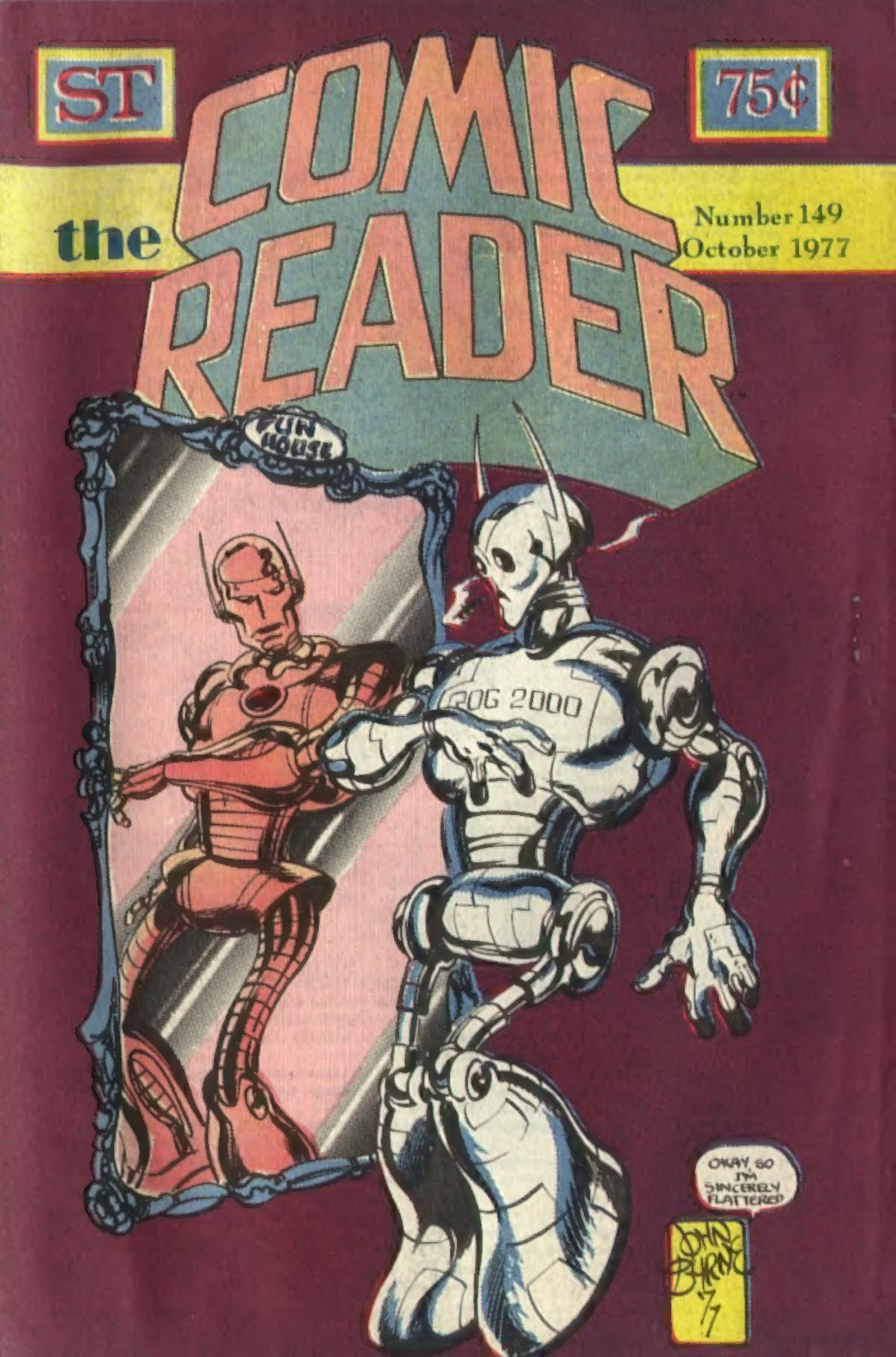
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Number 149
October 1977
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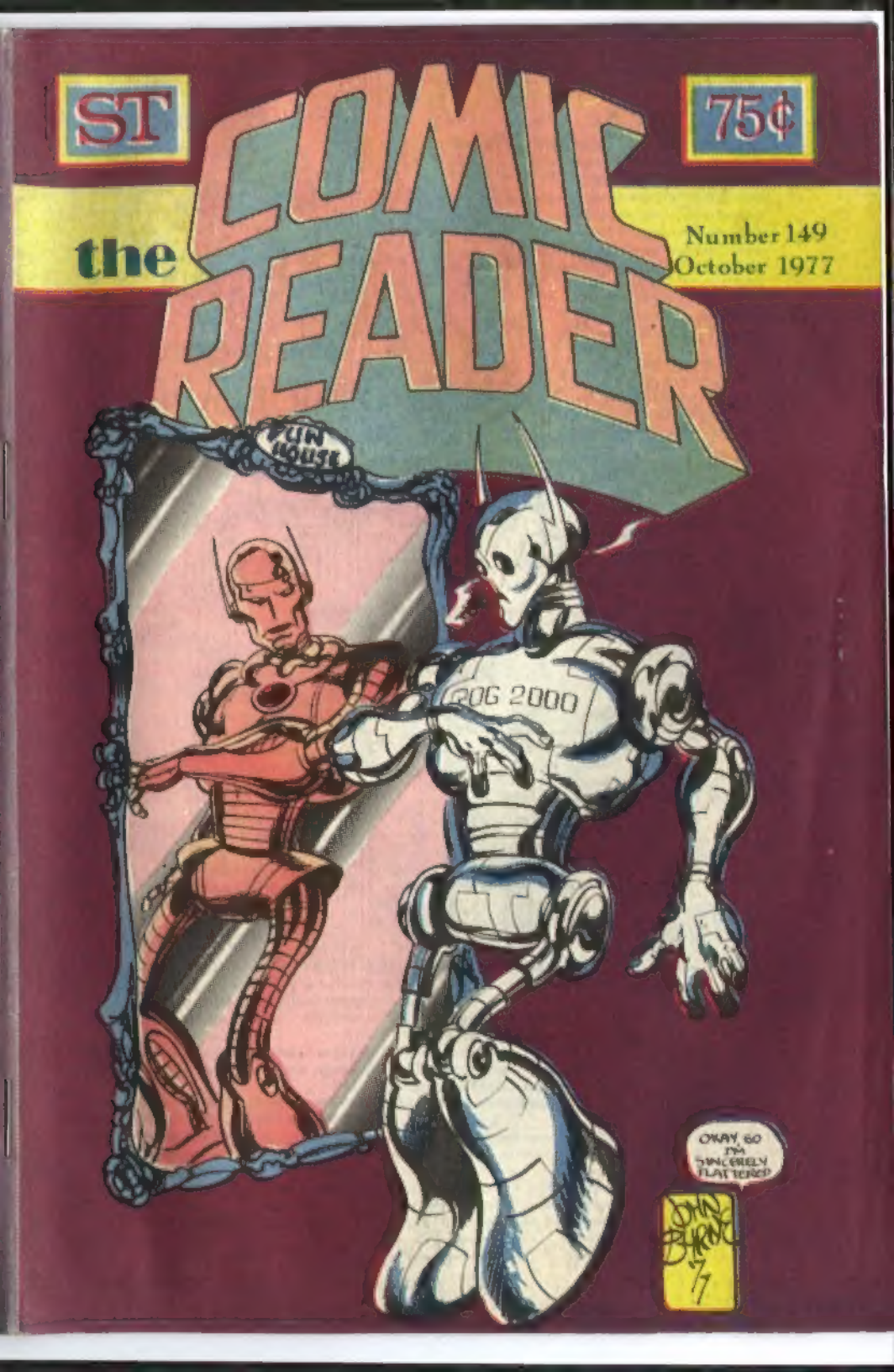
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OUR COVERS: John Byrne, at our suggestion, points out the similarity of the new Robotman and his own Rog-2000 on our front cover, and Tom Sutton illustrates the well known Amazon Princess on our back cover. Robotman and Wonder Woman are © DC Comics, Inc., and Rog-2000 is © 1977, John Byrne.

The COMIC READER

October 1977

Volume 1, Number 149

Jerome Sinkovec
Editor & Publisher

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Executive Editor

Andy Hildebrand, Rena Blabbit, Richard Burton
Editorial Commentators

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Associate Editor

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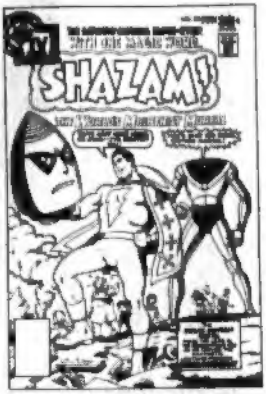
STEEL, THE INDESTRUCTIBLE MAN No. 1 will go on sale December 22. Created and written by Gerry Conway, drawn by Don Heck, and edited by Al Milgrom, the title character is originally Hank Haywood, a marine caught in an explosion who has various destroyed parts of his body replaced by steel. This announcement leaves only the second Julius Schwartz-edited book as unrevealed among the upcoming new titles.



Paul Levitz and Paul Kupperberg will script SHOWCASE #100 over Steve Englehart's original concept since Englehart left before he could complete it. #100, you'll recall, is a 60¢ issue teaming most of the heroes who got their start in SHOWCASE, all in one story. Joe Staton will draw.

CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN has been cancelled. #87, out in March, will be the last issue.

Joe Staton won't be doing the Amazons' chapter of the WONDER WOMAN Spectacular Issue. Mike Nasser has taken his place.

CLAW THE UNCONQUERED #10 will go on sale in January. The tentative team on the book is David Michelinie, Keith Giffen and John Celardo. Paul Levitz is editor.

January will also be the release month for another SECRET ORIGINS giant numbered in the DC SPECIAL SERIES. This one will feature the origins of Black Canary, Lightray (of THE NEW GODS) and probably Dr. Fate, although that is tentative.

The GREEN LANTERN tale in issue #100 of that magazine is drawn by newcomer Alex Saviuk, who is also doing #101 so that Mike Grell has the time to draw the LEGION tabloid. Another new DC employee, Frank McGinty, is writing #101 to allow Denny O'Neil some time off.

Denny O'Neil has left the hospital after an illness, and has signed a new contract with DC as a writer. He recently completed the rewrite of his LOGAN'S RUN TV episode, and is doing a mystery novel for Atheneum, a hardcover publisher.

The CREEPER adventure in WORLD'S FINEST #250 will feature flashbacks to his origin. Steve Ditko has relocated Jack Ryder in the security department of the Comic Broadcasting Network, a CBS rival. In that same issue, Superman and Batman team with the Phantom Stranger, and Wonder Woman and Sgt. Rock continue their adventure.

Bob Toomey and Tom Sutton are doing an issue of WEIRD WAR TALES together.

Joe Staton will be penciling WONDER WOMAN #241.

the cover. [10/11]

THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN No. 25, January. Roy Thomas, John Buscema and Alfredo Alcala, most likely. [10/11]

STAR WARS No. 7, January. Han Solo and Chewie take off into the sunset with the Millenium Falcon to find adventure and phenomenal sales figures in this issue by Roy Thomas, Howard Chaykin and Frank Springer. Gil Kane and Tony DeZuniga did the cover. [10/11]

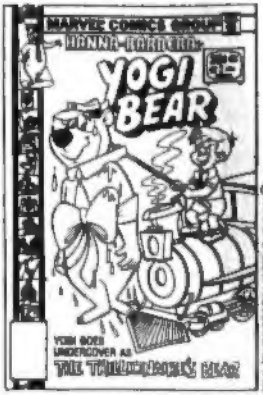
THOR No. 267, January. "Once More To Midgard" is by Len Wein, Walt Simonson and Tony DeZuniga. Thor returns to Earth and his medical practice as Don Blake to find things have

changed -- his office building is now a parking lot. Besides, Thor must fight Damocles and his sword. Simonson and Sinnott did the cover. [10/11]

YOGI BEAR No. 2, January. "The Trillionaire's Bear" is by Mark Evanier and Dick Bickenbach. Yogi goes undercover. [10/11]

THE AVENGERS No. 167, January. "Tomorrow Dies Today" is by Jim Shooter, George Perez and Pablo Marcos. The Guardians Of The Galaxy return to the 20th Century -- but are they with or against The Avengers? Perez and Terry Austin did the cover. [10/18]

BLACK PANTHER No. 7, January. "Drums" is by Jack Kirby and Mike Royer. T'Challa ends



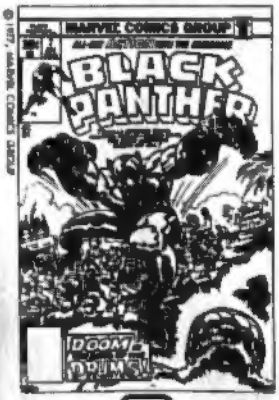
his adventure in the City Of Samaurais, but there's trouble brewing in Wakanda. Kirby and Ernie Chan did the cover. [10/18]

THE CHAMPIONS No. 17, January. "The Sentinels Hunt Again" is by Bill Mantlo, George Tuska and John Byrne. The Sentinels return -- or do they? Ernie Chan did the cover. [10/18]

CONAN THE BARBARIAN No. 82, January. Conan fights again in a story by Roy Thomas, John Buscema and Ernie Chan. [10/18]

THE DEFENDERS No. 55, January. "Ego, Emotion, and Empty Expectations" is by David Kraft, Carmine Infantino and Klaus Janson. The Defenders are trapped in the U.S.S.R., dying of radiation poisoning, while Valkyrie takes on Lunatik on her own in the U.S. [10/18]

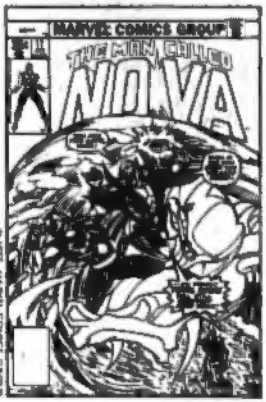
THE INCREDIBLE HULK No. 219, January. "No Man Is An



Island" is by Len Wein, Roger Stern, Sal Buscema and Ernie Chan. Bruce Banner has to find his way home but Captain Barracuda causes troubles. Plus -- The Hulk meets Robinson Crusoe. Chan did the cover. [10/18]

MARVEL TALES No. 87, January. "Vengeance From Viet Nam" is by Stan Lee and John Romita and was originally published in SPIDER-MAN #108. Romita did the cover. [10/18]

NOVA No. 17, January. "Tidal Wave" is by Marv Wolfman, Carmine Infantino and Tom Palmer. Nova and Nick Fury break away from their D.C.-headed missle and the Living Rocket must save New York from the wrath of Yellow Claw. Infantino and Palmer did the cover. [10/18]



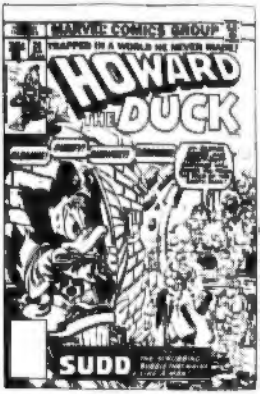
RAWHIDE KID No. 143, January. [10/18]

CAPTAIN MARVEL No. 54, January. "The Big Bang Theory" is by Scott Edelman, George Tuska and Terry Austin. Nitro tries to blow Mar-Vell to smithereens. Keith Pollard and Austin did the cover. [10/25]

CRAZY No. 33, January. [10/25]

FANTASTIC FOUR No. 190, January. "The Way It Was" is by Marv Wolfman, Sal Buscema and Joe Sinnott. The Thing reminisces about previous breakups of the FF. George Perez or Keith Pollard and Joe Sinnott did the cover. [10/25]

HOWARD THE DUCK No. 20, January. "Sudd... The Scrubbing Bubble That Walked Like

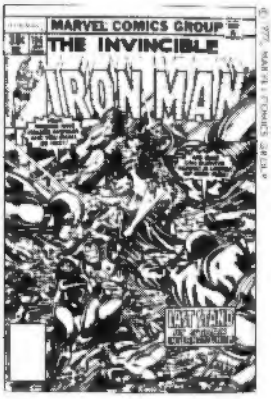


A Man" is by Steve Gerber, Gene Colan and Klaus Janson. Howard escapes the clutches of Dr. Bong, wanders around naked (!) for awhile, then gets a job as a dishwasher to buy some clothes. Then his troubles begin. Colan and Palmer did the cover. [10/25]

IRON MAN No. 106, January. "Then There Come A War" is by Bill Mantlo, George Tuska and Mike Esposito. Iron Man and his merry band attack Stark, International in the penultimate battle with Midas. Also, IM faces an army of Iron Men. Dave Cockrum and Terry Austin did the cover. [10/25]

JOHN CARTER, WARLORD OF MARS No. 8, January. "The Creature That Destroyed Helium" is by Marv Wolfman, Gil Kane and Rudy Nebres. Kane and Nebres did the cover. [10/25]

MARVEL CLASSICS COMICS



No. 31, January. A CHRISTMAS CAROL is adapted by Doug Moench. Alfredo Alcala did the cover. [10/25]

MARVEL CLASSICS COMICS No. 32, January. Mark Twain's THE PRINCE AND THE PAUPER is adapted by Don McGregor. Alfredo Alcala did the cover. [10/25]

MARVEL SPECIAL EDITION - STAR WARS No. 2, January. Issues #4-6 of the regular STAR WARS comics are reprinted in this treasury for $1.00. Roy Thomas, Howard Chaykin and Steve Leialoha did the interiors; Chaykin and Tony DeZuniga did the new cover. [10/25]

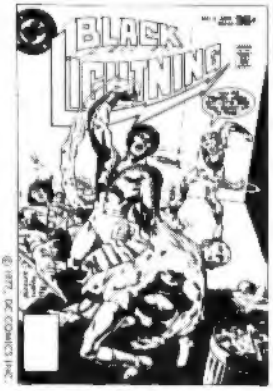
MARVEL TEAM-UP No. 65, January. "Introducing Captain Britain" is by Chris Claremont, John Byrne and David Hunt. Captain Britain makes his first U.S. appearance by getting a visa and coming here to find out the identity of Arcade -- but he runs into Spider-Man. George Perez and Joe Sinnott did the cover. [10/25]

THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN No. 14, January. Spidey, Flash Thompson and Razorback continue their fight with the Legion of Light and get a peek at who's under the Hate Monger's mask. Archie Goodwin, Bill Mantlo, Sal Buscema and Mike Esposito are those responsible. [10/25]

SPIDEY SUPER STORIES No. 30, January. [10/25]

TARZAN, LORD OF THE JUNGLE No. 8, January. Roy Thomas, John Buscema and Tony DeZuniga offer another tale. Buscema did the cover. [10/25]

MARVEL PREVIEW No. 12, Spring. A HAUNT OF HORROR issue. Lilith appears in the first story called "Profits Are Flying" by Steve Gerber, Bob Brown and Frank Springer. Other stories include "Pictures Of Andrea" by Doug Moench and Sonny Trinidad; "Death Of The Living Dead" by David Kraft, Bob Brown and Pablo Marcos; "Slinking Through The Psycho Ward" by Moench and Mike Ka-



luta; and an Introduction by George Perez and Pablo Marcos. Earl Norem did the cover. [11/1]

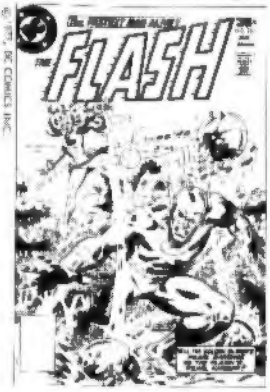
PIZZAZZ No. 2, January. [11/1]

DC Coming Comics

BLACK LIGHTNING No. 6, January. "One Man's Poison" is by Tony Isabella, Trevor von Eeden and Vince Colletta. BL takes Syonide on -- unwillingly. Rich Buckler and Colletta did the cover. [10/4]

DOORWAY TO NIGHTMARE No. 1, January-February. This book has a different approach to mystery than the other DC titles in that it includes an occult heroine named Madame Xanadu. She helps a young girl who enters her curio shop in a story by David Michelinie and Val Mayerik. Michael W. Kaluta did the cover. [10/4]

THE FLASH No. 257, January.



"The Golden Glider's Triple Play" is by Cary Bates, Irv Novick and Frank McLaughlin. Captain Cold's sister, Golden Glider gets back at The Flash by attacking his parents and Iris Allen. Rich Buckler and Jack Abel did the cover. [10/4]

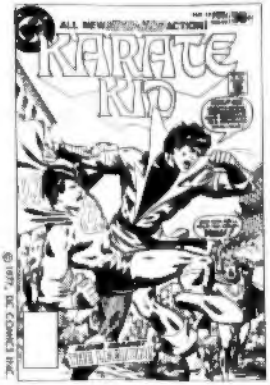
JONAH HEX No. 8, January. "Mark Of The Demon" is by Mike Fleisher, Ernie Chan and Vicente Alcazar. I know, I know -- it's been promised before -- but this issue's supposed to finally reveal the origin of Jonah Hex... how he was sold to the Indians by his father and like that. Chan did the cover. [10/4]

JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA No. 150, January. "The Key -- Or Not The Key!" is Steve Englehart's final JLA issue and is

drawn by Dick Dillin and Frank McLaughlin. The Key entraps the JLA in giant keyholes. Rich Buckler and Jack Abel did the cover. [10/4]

KARATE KID No. 12, January-February. "The Time Of Your Death" is by Bob Rozakis, Juan Ortiz and Bob McLeod. KK gets a new look and goes back in time to Smallville of Superboy's youth and finds himself up against both Superboy and a strangely motivated Legion. Rich Buckler and Jack Abel did the cover. [10/4]

SHAZAM! No. 33, January-February. "The World's Mightiest Race" is by E. Nelson Bridwell, Tony Hanson, Vince Colletta with additional work by Kurt Schaffenberger. At the Indianapolis 500, Captain Marvel races Mr. Atom in his new Shazamobile. Schaffenberger did the cover. [10/4]



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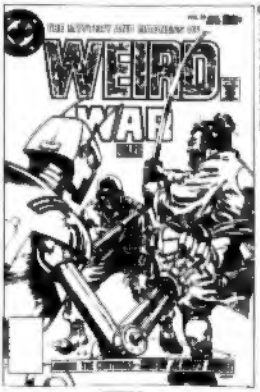
WEIRD WAR TALES No. 59, January. "The Old One" is by Jack Oleck and Ernie Chan; "Death God" is by Robert Kanigher and Russ Heath; and "Gordon Of Khartoum" is by David Michelinie and Val Mayerik. Alan Weiss did the cover. [10/4]

ALL-NEW COLLECTORS' EDITION C-53, January. RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER is this issue's subject in a brand new adventure by Sheldon Mayer and Tony Hanson. Mayer did the cover. [10/11]

ALL-NEW COLLECTORS' EDITION C-54, January. SUPERMAN VS. WONDER WOMAN is featured in this issue. WW attempts to save mankind by preventing the Manhattan Project (creation of the first atomic bomb) while Superman battles



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her to save it. Gerry Conway, Jose Luis Garcia-Lopez, Dan Adkins and Joe Orlando are the persons responsible. Garcia-Lopez and Adkins did the cover. [10/11]

BATMAN No. 295, January. "The Adventure Of The Houdini Whodunit" is by Gerry Conway and Michael Golden. The Mystery Analysts Of Gotham City return after a long hiatus and Batman rejoins them to solve a mystery (what else?). Jim Aparo did the cover. [10/11]

DC SUPER-STARS No. 18, Winter. Deadman and The Phantom Stranger are teamed up in a book-length story by Marty Pasko, Gerry Conway, Romeo Tanghal and Dick Giordano. Set in Rutland, Vermont, Deadman and PS battle demons and gargoyles

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attempting to take over the world plus Talia returns to plague them. Jim Aparo did the cover. [10/11]

FREEDOM FIGHTERS No. 12, January-February. "Bust Out In The Big House" is by Bob Rozakis, Dick Ayers and Alfredo Alcala. Doll Man is scheduled to be executed and the FF must try to prevent it because that's the way they are. Also, from his appearance on the cover, we'd guess that The Firebrand (a Quality hero from POLICE COMICS) makes a reappearance after 35 years. Rich Buckler and Jack Abel did the cover. [10/11]

GHOSTS No. 60, January. "Phantom Fires Of Java" is by Carl Wessler and Nely Panelli-gan; "Spectral Smile Of Death" is by Robert Kanigher and Jerry

Grandenetti; and "Search For A Specter" is by George Kashdan and E.R. Cruz. Luis Dominguez did the cover. [10/11]

MEN OF WAR No. 4, January. "Trial By Fire" is by David Michelinie, Dick Ayers and Romeo Tanghal and is this issue's Gravedigger adventure. Plus, a new series, "Dateline:Frontline" by Cary Burkett and Jerry Grandenetti debuts. Joe Kubert did the cover. [10/11]

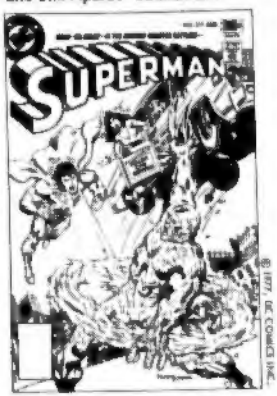
SGT. ROCK No. 312, January. "No Name Hill" is by Robert Kanigher and Frank Redondo and it stars Rock and Easy Co. The backup is called "Preacher." Joe Kubert did the cover. [10/11]

SUPERMAN No. 319, January. "How To Make A Marshland Monster" is by Marty Pasko, Curt Swan and Frank Chiaramonte. Solomon Grundy is recreated and The Parasite also shows up. Plus, the spark between Clark and Lana Lang is rekindled. Rich Buckler and Bob Oksner did the cover. [10/11]

WELCOME BACK, KOTTER No. 9, January. "Well, I'll Be A Kotter's Uncle" is by Scott Edelman and Bob Oksner. Oksner did the cover. [10/11]

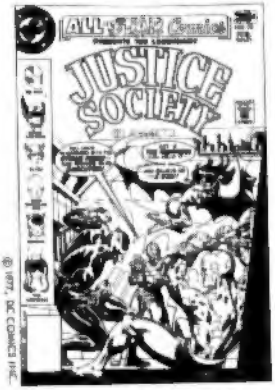
ALL-STAR COMICS No. 70, January-February. "A Parting Of The Ways" is by Paul Levitz, Joe Staton and Bob Layton. After the fight with the newer JSAers, the older members go back to their private lives and leave Wildcat and Star Spangled Kid to battle the Strike Force -- until The Huntress shows up. Al Milgrom and Jack Abel did the cover. [10/18]

THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD No. 139, January. "Requiem For A Top Cop" is by Bob Haney and Jim Aparo. Batman and



Hawkman team up to prevent someone from exacting an extreme penalty on Commissioner Gordon for a past indiscretion. Aparo did the cover. [10/18]

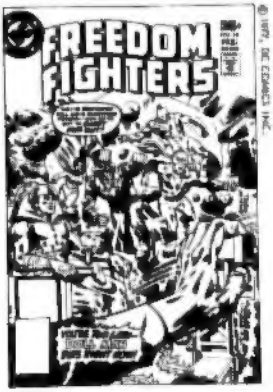
HOUSE OF MYSTERY No. 256, January-February. "Blood Of The Vampire" is by Mike Fleisher, Romeo Tanghal and Bob Smith; "Museum Of Murder" is by Mike Pellowski, Robert Kanigher and Alex Nino; "Perfect Poison" is by Pellowski, Steve Skeates and Ernie Chan and Vince Colletta; "Raise The Devil" is by David V. Reed and Ruben Yandoc; "The Worm Turns" is by Mike Fleisher, Russell Carley and Alfredo Alcala; and "Satan's Child" is by Jack Oleck and Arthur Suydam. Semi Wrightson did the cover. [10/18]

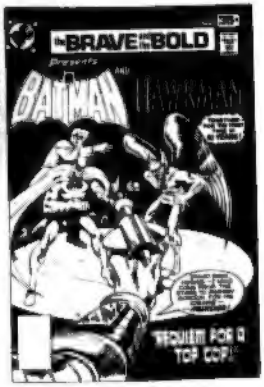


OUR FIGHTING FORCES No. 177, January-February. "This Loser Must Die" is by Robert Kanigher and George Evans. Gunner and Sarge star in "Ordeal By Fire" by Wesley Marsh and E.R. Cruz. Joe Kubert did the cover. [10/18]

SECRET SOCIETY OF SUPER-VILLAINS No. 12, January. "The Plunder Plan" is by Gerry Conway, Mike Vosburg and Bob McLeod. Star Sapphire, Professor Zoom, Floronic Man and The Blockbuster aid The Wizard in his attack on Earth. Rich Buckler and Jack Abel did the cover. [10/18]

SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES No. 235, January. "The Legion's Super-Secret" is by Paul Levitz and Mike Grell and it reveals why the Legionnaires have stayed so young throughout their adventures. Also, "Trial Of The Legion Five" is by Gerry Conway, Jim Sherman and Jack Abel. Mike Grell did the cover. [10/18]

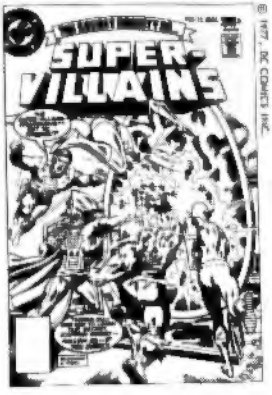




THE SUPERMAN FAMILY No. 187, January-February. Jimmy Olsen starts things off in "Dealers Of Death" by Tom DeFalco and Winslow Mortimer; Superman stars in "Phoenix Of Steel" by Gerry Conway, Curt Swan and Murphy Anderson; Lois Lane is featured in "Destruction Of The Temple" by DeFalco and Mortimer; Krypto appears in "Double Trouble" by Bob Toomey and some artist or another; Supergirl gets the spotlight in "Birthright Of Power" by Jack C. Harris and Dan Heck; and Nightwing And Flamebird star in "Battle With The Bizarro Brain" by Paul Kupperberg, Ken Landgraf and Romeo Tanghal. Jose Luis Garcia-Lopez did the cover. [10/18]

WEIRD WESTERN TALES No. 44, January-February. Mike Fleisher, Dick Ayers, George Evans. Jim Starlin and Al Milgrom did the cover. [10/18]

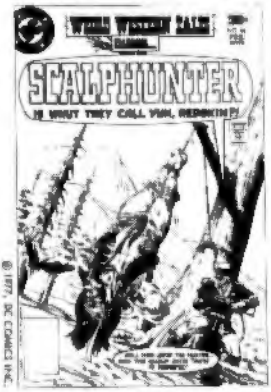
ACTION COMICS No. 479,



January. "Giant From The Golden Atom" is by Gerry Conway, Curt Swan and Frank Chiaramonte. Superman battles an expanded microcreature that no one can see. Rich Buckler and Bob Oksner did the cover. [10/25]

ADVENTURE COMICS No. 455, January-February. "I Can't Go Home Again" is by Bob Rozakis, Juan Ortiz and Vince Colletta. Superboy discovers that it's Luthor who's behind Smallville's Kryptonite transformation. Aqualad finds the truth behind his parent's death in "Legacy" by Paul Kupperberg, Carl Potts and Dick Giordano. Al Milgrom and Jack Abel did the cover. [10/25]

GREEN LANTERN No. 100,



January. "Rider Of The Air Waves" is by Denny O'Neil, Alex Saviuk and Vince Colletta and features Green Lantern. GL begins his new job as a trucker and meets the original Air Wave's son. "Beware The Blazing Inferno" is by Elliot Maggin, Mike Grell and Colletta and spotlights Green Arrow. GA, Black Canary and Speedy team up while Oliver Queen is solicited for the mayoral candidacy in Star City. Mike Grell did the cover. [10/25]

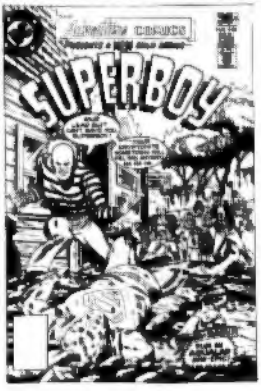
THE UNEXPECTED No. 183, January-February. "The Dead Don't Always Die" is by George Kashdan and Ernie Patricia; "Beware The Green Cannibal" is by Carl Wessler and Gerry Talaoc; and "Golden Grave" is

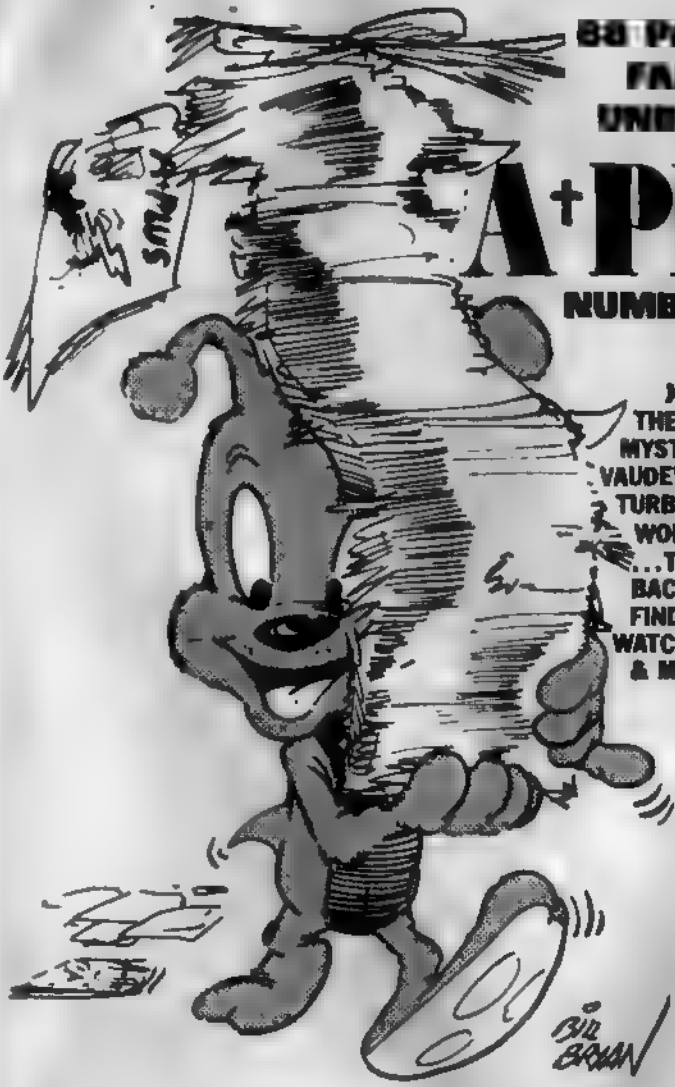
by Kashdan and E.R. Cruz. Luis Dominguez did the cover. [10/25]

UNKNOWN SOLDIER No. 211, January. UK fights the Nazi Werewolf Squadron in a story by Bob Haney, Dick Ayers and Gerry Talaoc. Joe Kubert did the cover. [10/25]

THE WITCHING HOUR No. 76, January. "The Man Who Bought Death" is by Carl Wessler, Dick Ayers and Chic Stone; "Smile If It Kills You" is by Wessler and Ernie Patricia; and "Ring Out The Wretched" is by George Kashdan and E.R. Cruz. Luis Dominguez did the cover. [10/25]

WONDER WOMAN No. 239, January. "A Duke Named Deception" is by Gerry Conway, Jose Delbo and Vince Colletta. The Golden Age Flash guest stars as WW faces one of her last '40s villains, the Duke of Deception. The comic will soon revert to its Earth One setting. Rich Buckler and Colletta did the cover. [10/25]





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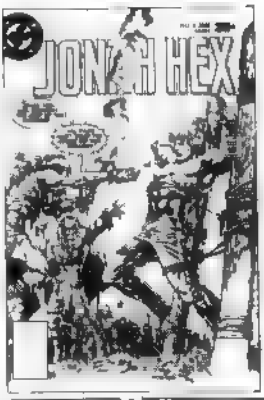
DOORWAY TO NIGHTMARE #3 is another book-length issue with a story by Bill Kunkel, Ric Estrada and Ramon Tanghal.

WELCOME BACK, KOTTER #11 will be scripted by Mark Evanier.

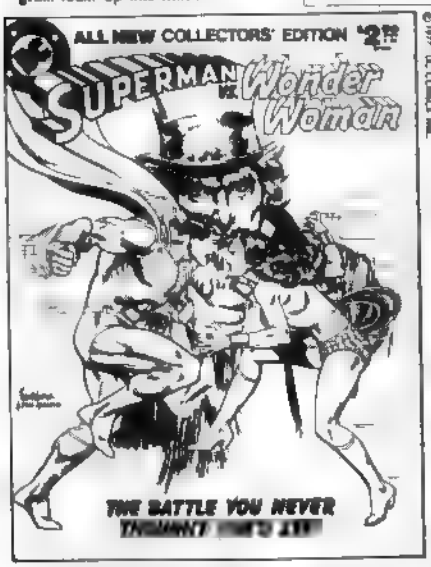
THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD #141 will co-star Batman and Black Canary vs. The Joker.

Another three-part ENEMY ACE story is being worked on for MEN OF WAR. Robert Kanigher, Larry Hama and Al Milgrom team-up this time.



UNKNOWN SOLDIER #211 will contain a reprinted Unknown Soldier story from STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES #159 by Bob Haney and Joe Kubert. The backup is a Viet Nam story written by Larry Hama and drawn by Russ Heath. #212 will feature the contents we list in this issue's coming comics; #214 will be a sequel to DC SUPER-STARS #15 featuring Mike Marie by Bob Kanigher, Dick Ayers and Ramon Tanghal.

Dick Giordano is inking the second POWER GIRL issue of SHOWCASE over Joe Staton's pencils.



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Some more returning villains include The Mad Hatter in BATMAN #296, and Amazo in ACTION COMICS #480. Plus, the Five-in-One Villain will take on Batgirl, Robin, Harlequin and the original Bat-Girl in BATMAN FAMILY #16.

SECRETS OF SINISTER HOUSE #11 will feature the debut of another new artist care of Continuity Associates named John Fuller. It will also contain a brand new, non-inventory story drawn by Nestor Redondo.

The Chicago Tribune-New York News Syndicate has okayed the plot for the first continuity involving Superman and Wonder Woman for the upcoming newspaper strip. The first week is being scripted.

Jim Starlin covers will show up on NEW GODS #17 and HOUSE OF SECRETS #150.

John Calnardo will be inking Don Newton's first issue of AQUAMAN, #60. Joe Giella will ink Jose Delbo's pencils for WONDER WOMAN #240, and Irv Novick's for FLASH #259.

Mike Golden will take over the art on MISTER MIRACLE with #23.

Don Newton is the new penciller on SHAZAM! beginning with #35.

WEIRD WAR TALES #59 will contain a Russ Heath story.

John Calnardo is inking the Batgirl-Robin adventure for BATMAN FAMILY #16 over Don Heck's pencils. Gerry Conway is writing a Batgirl-Robin-Huntress story for #17.

Mike Kaluta has done covers for HOUSE OF SECRETS #151, DOORWAY INTO NIGHTMARE #2 and SECRETS OF HAUNTED HOUSE #11.

THE AMAZING WORLD OF DC COMICS #15 should be out the week of September 12.

SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION OF SUPERHEROES will be featuring a multi-part epic of at least five parts which is inspired by E.E. "Doc" Smith's LENSMAN series. Meanwhile, SUPERBOY #236 features two stories pencilled by Jim Sherman; one is inked by Bob McLeod, the other by Joe Rubenstein. #237 will be a book-length story pencilled by Walt Simonson, and #238's lead story will be done by Jim Starlin. A backup tale will be telling the origin of Dawnstar. Paul Kupperberg will be assisting Paul Levitz in the writing of these stories.

Vicente Alcazar did the cover for HOUSE OF MYSTERY #152.

Joe Orlando has inked the cover for JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA #151. Issue #153 will be a fill-in issue pencilled by George Tuska.

Kurt Schaffenberger has drawn a SHAZAM! Little Golden Book for Whitman.

This season's WONDER WOMAN (entitled THE NEW ADVENTURES OF... instead of THE ORIGINAL...), contains significant changes besides being shifted to the present. Lyle Waggoner plays Steve Trevor, Jr. (WW hasn't aged), she's got a new job and her costume has been altered (notably her eagle and her star-spangled shorts).

Sergio Aragones, erstwhile PLOP! cartoonist, has hit the big time. He's writing and performing on the new LAUGH-IN specials.

TCR Message

Okay, so we were wrong. When Andy Hildebrand and I composed the COMMENT for #145 we both agreed that despite our hopes and those of the industry, comics based upon (or boosted by) film or TV versions weren't going to help the industry jack up its sagging sales. Then came STAR WARS.

In today's market of 60%+ returns, a second printing is unthinkable but STAR WARS has done it. There's a third printing in the planning stages. The issues have been bagged in plastic so you can buy the first three at one time. And Marvel, long noted for the recent vintage of some of their reprints, has done the unprecedented. The STAR WARS Treasury reprints an issue one month after it originally appeared! Incredible, lucky and perfectly timed. Marvel is delighted.

Now let's see them do it again. - Mike

Visual Publications

The book that Gray Morrow is working on is called ILLUSTRATED ROGER ZELAZNY. It's to be published by Baronet Publications (509 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022) for $14.95 plus 50¢ postage. The book will be a deluxe 96 page hardcover with engraved cloth jacket and hand-tipped color plate. The edition will be limited to 2,500 with numbered, autographed (Zelazny and Morrow) copies. The book will contain sixty pages of full color process art and will be composed of graphic story, illustrated story and mural material. The graphic stories include Zelazny's DOORS OF HIS FACE LAMPS OF HIS MOUTH and A ROSE FOR ECCLESIASTES. Also in the book are epic murals based upon Corwyn and the Amber worlds, plus graphic stories of ROCK COLLECTOR and a new Zelazny story called SHADOW-JACK, which is 23 pages long.

WEIRD HEROES #7 will be appearing in October. WEIRD HEROES #8 will appear in November. The art in #8 will be by Alfredo Alcala, Steve Hickman and Howie Chaykin.

The graphic novel being produced by Howie Chaykin and Samuel R. Delany is for a full-color graphic novel and has not been sold to HEAVY METAL, as we erroneously reported a while back.

Upcoming is a graphic novel by Alex Nino, Doug Moench and Theodore Sturgeon. It will be one hundred pages, in the fantasy motif and in the format of the SON OF SHERLOCK book, but with more panels and no hand-drawn and lettered balloons.

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Warren Coming Comics

EERIE No. 89, December. "Crystabel" is by Bill Dubay and Leo Duranona; "Francheso" Part One is by Bruce Jones and Gonzalo Mayo; "Boiling Point" is by James and Leopoldo Sanchez; and "The Black Demon Sword" is by Budd Lewis and Jose Ortiz. George McDonald did the cover. [10/25]

Our credits for the all-VAMPIRELLA issue of that title (#64, October) should have made mention that Carmine Infantino pencilled the first two chapters.

Marvel News

OMISSIONS. First, the tabloid STAR WARS treasury came out in August, and we found out the same way the rest of you who bought it did. The second issue is on this month's schedule. Second, NOVA No. 16 should have been listed in

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last month's coming comics listings. The book goes bi-monthly with #17. For completists, here's the listing
NOVA No. 16, December. "Death Is The Yellow Claw" is by Marv Wolfman, Carmine Infantino and Tom Palmer. The cover is by Sal Buscema and Joe Sinnott. [9/20]

FANTASTIC FOUR #189 was a reprint, so the contents we listed for that will probably be featured in #190, while this issue's contents will probably be featured in #191. If they don't, don't blame us.

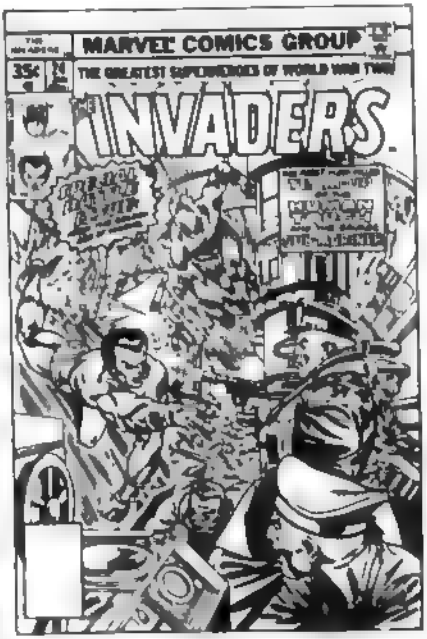
THE MAN FROM ATLANTIS has been delayed until November. It is to be Marvel's first 80 page $1.00 book.

Carmine Infantino is doing a two-issue fill-in on IRON MAN for #108 and 109 which co-stars the Jack Of Hearts in an adventure with the Colonizers of Rigel and the Knights Of Wundagore.

Dick Giordano has finished his CONAN story to be featured in SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #25.

Roger McKenzie will be

The CONAN ANNUAL



that came out last month was a reprint -- but we didn't list anything for it anyway.

Jack Kirby's two new books will be called DEVIL DINOSAUR and MISTER MACHINE. Both debut in December and are monthlies. DEVIL DINOSAUR involves caveman and dinosaurs in the same time period, while MISTER MACHINE, the title of which may have to be changed because of the existence of a toy by that name, continues the android-with-a-soul story that Kirby began in 2001 A SPACE ODYSSEY.

Completing the circle, so to speak, will be a Ballantine-Del Rey paperback version of the Marvel Comics adaptation of STAR WARS. I guess that leaves only a newspaper strip reprinting of the adaptation to utilize all the available options.

Marvel may do a third reprinting of STAR WARS in the 30¢ version.

Len Wein and Marv Wolfman are co-writing a paperback novel starring SPIDER-MAN.

taking over the writing of DAREDEVIL as of #151 and GHOST RIDER with #28.

Keith Pollard will be the new permanent penciller on FANTASTIC FOUR starting with #191.

Jim Shooter and George Perez will be occupied mostly with THE AVENGERS, though they also have some special projects going. Perez is doing an issue of THE RAMPAGING HULK which will guest-star the early version of The Avengers.

THE RAMPAGING HULK #7 will feature a MAN-THING story by Steve Gerber and Jim Starlin.

Due to deadline problems, MARVEL PREVIEW #12 will be a HAUNT OF HORROR issue featuring work by Steve Gerber, Mike Kaluta, Doug Moench, George Perez, Paolo Marcos and Bob Brown. #13 will be the UFO issue scheduled for #12 by Doug Moench, Herb Trimpe and Kaus Janson.

Upcoming in DR. STRANGE will be the answer to the mystery: "Whatever happened to Steven Sanders?" (Sanders was the "secret identity" given to Dr. Strange in 1969 to attempt to make him more of a superhero in order to save him from cancellation.)

Villains soon to appear in the FANTASTIC FOUR include Diablo, Darkoff the Death Demon, The Invincible Man and the Texas Twister, Blastaar, Stilt Man and Attuma will also show up in THOR.

Bruce Banner will soon be cured of his unwanted transformations into The Hulk.

Marv Wolfman has filled in on FANTASTIC FOUR #191, an issue spotlighting The Thing's recollections of past FF breakups.

Marv Wolfman is also doing an issue of WHAT IF? This one considers the end result of five other people becoming Nova. Each character will get a different artistic treatment during chapters will be John Buscema, Carmine Infantino, Ross Andru, Walt Simonson and George Perez.

Ms. Marvel will guest-star in THE DEFENDERS #57 to face Shaman and his A.M. Warbat. Chris Claremont scripted the story over a Gerry Conway plot. George Tuska and Dave Cockrum are the artists. A month later, Ms. Marvel will join The Avengers.

Carmine Infantino is drawing a MS. MARVEL story in which she meets the all new Steeplejack. Another issue will feature Ms. Marvel in the other dimensional world of Akiron The Imperion.

Ed Hannigan will be first string penciller on THE DEFENDERS beginning with #58. David Kraft and Klaus Janson will write and ink, and Dr. Strange will return to the team non-team. The Devil Slayer and the Agents of Fortune are their adversaries.

DR. STRANGE #27 and 28 will bring the Creators-in-Between storyline to a close courtesy of Roger Stern and Tom Sutton.

Dracula will go to Hell in a future TOMB OF DRACULA. He will also become a mortal when he loses his vampiric characteristics and finds how difficult it is for the rest of us.

TCR Mailboat

DOUG MOENCH, Ottawa, IL: As originally published in COMIC MEDIA NEWS, one of the sentences in the Dan McGregor interview reads: "There's no need for me to do a duplicate of Shang Chi (sic), it's so beautifully done already by Doug Moench and Paul Gulacy."

In your TCR "transcription" of the interview, the sentence reads: "There's no need for me to do a duplicate of Shang Chi (still sic), it's done already by Doug Moench and Paul Gulacy."

Why?

No slur intended, Doug. It was, honestly, a simple transcriptional error. Sorry. MT.

DAMON OWENS, 8706 Candy Street, Houston, TX 77029: I am very pleased with TCR. I feel that it is very informative. I've been a subscriber a little over two years and I have not regretted it. However, there is something that disturbs me concerning your editorial comments.

It seems to me that you have a strong dislike against Marvel Comics. In almost every editorial, I've read at least one critical remark against Marvel and/or its comics. I realize that no comic company is perfect. Even though I prefer Marvel, I realize it has undesirable aspects too. But, just as it has its bad points, it has its good points as well. I've never read anything complimentary about Marvel in any of your editorials. Even in TCR #146, page 11, you criticize how Marvel uses characterization. In #145, you criticize the FF saga. To be fair, I've read some of your criticisms against DC, but at most you have mentioned you like one of their books (ALL-STAR COMICS).

In TCR #145, you ask us to count the number of times our favorite hero has said a "hell" or "damn." One of my favorites did that... The Thin Man, on the cover of TCR #137. "People who live in glass houses..."

I sincerely hope that you aren't offended by my letter. It wasn't my intention to humiliate you. It's just that at least once a year I'd like you to write a complimentary editorial. Tell us of the comics you like (and why) which are published by both DC AND Marvel, as well as some of the other companies. Please don't label me a Marvel "fanatic." I don't like EVERY book they put out, and ditto for DC. But both deserve something nice said about them, as well as comics in general. By the way, the covers are looking great.

First, don't worry about the criticism offending me -- I expect it. There's going to be disagreement about anything I say, and to hope that everyone thinks everything is perfect is optimistic to a ridiculous extreme. That said, let me say that I consciously try not to play favorites. I've gotten wind that Marvel feels a bit slighted because occasionally we get more tongue-

s stance. In the best RED SONJA stories, you never feel that Sonja starts trouble just for the hell of it. There's always something important at stake -- usually Sonja's life and, or liberty. And since she's not a super-hero who can render her enemies harmlessly unconscious with one blow, she fights back the only way she can -- with her sword.

If you're going to accept the existence of barbarian books at all, it's hypocritical to turn up your nose at Red Sonja. And if you want strong, independent heroines, she's too good an example to throw away just because she's true to her genre.

That's very true. However -- and I'm sorry, didn't make this clearer -- I don't accept barbarian books at all. Any feelings I have against RED SONJA were called from reading CONAN, I don't need the violence, blood and barbarism, I don't enjoy it and I disagree strongly with the idea that Sonja's ability to kill if provoked might possibly give me a better self-image of my independence. Certainly, the rape instance you cite is a tough situation to get out of any other way -- but it's relationship to present-day existence escapes me. What are women supposed to do, resort to violence when attacked? I don't know that that isn't twice as dangerous as not resisting (in fact, I don't know that experts agree either). The whole thing smacks of Clint Eastwood or Charles Bronson movies in which innocents are murdered because they can't defend themselves. The thing is, in those cases and in RED SONJA, the writer is in total control of the situation and naturally stacks the deck in his philosophical direction. So saying, "What else could she do?" is actually asking why the writer put her in that position to begin with. What removes Conan and Red Sonja from my idea of fantasy is the fact that they don't have super powers, they don't costume themselves as insanely as super heroes (although their clothes certainly are not utilitarian) and they use weaponry that is historically real. The same thing makes DC's current westerns, Joe Orlando's war books, Tarzan, Ka-Zar and many other "non-super" books quite repulsive to me.

This trend beyond realism to natural sex is distressing to me and I don't need it. -Rona Bobbit

ALEX FERGUSON, 1910 Vine Street, and TONY ESPOSITO, 1860 West 2nd, Vancouver, BC CANADA To Rona Blobbit: I hope you don't mind a little criticism because you're about to get a lot. It's not that I think your column is a bit on the poor side, I think it's a lot to the poor side. Who are you to say what's dreadful and boring? Actually, you're probably a very good critic... in your own mind. But your column isn't totally useless. I get a chance to review everything I've already known for three months. Look at the bright side, your column can't get much worse. (I hope.)
P.S. Keep on writing your column. It's good for a laugh.
P.P.S. Don't take what we have to say seriously. We don't take what you say seriously either.

How amusing. What is this, dump on Rona month? I'm trying to figure out what exactly prompted this letter, since going over my last three columns yielded only a few items which I referred to as "dreadful" or "boring." All I can figure is what we have here are two disgruntled FANTASTIC JOURNEY fans.
P.S. I like you too. - RB

WILLIAM E. LURIE, 189 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14202: Although TCR has been listing Gold Key re-issues as usual, I have not been able to find any of them at either regular newsstands or comic stores. The newsstands know nothing, one comic store said that Gold Key went out of business and another comic store said that Gold Key wanted them to charge 40c for books with a 35c cover price and that there would be no more Gold Keys sold West of Chicago. What gives? DC and Marvel are fine for teenaged and adult comic readers, but Gold Key has always had the best books for children (and those of us who occasionally like to relive our childhood). Some of the Disney books are especially missed. Please shed any light on this situation that you can.

[There have been issues of TCR that have erroneously reported the existence of a comic book or two, but we would never like to you about an entire comics group! Gold Key Comics, distributed by the Whitman Publishing Company, have a distribution system that is slightly different from the DC, Marvel, etc., distribution systems. Gold Key Comics have been missing from the newsstands in some areas of the country because some distributors choose to cut down the number of comics that fill the available space by leaving out the Gold Keys. Oh, they do appear in areas west of Chicago. JS]

GREG HUNEYAGER, 704 Oak Ridge Drive, Sand Springs, OK 74063: The interviews in #146 and #147 were enjoyable but an update on the McGregor interview was sorely needed. Perhaps you could print his views on his DRAGONFLAME and SABRE books in a future issue. I agreed with most of Janette Kahn's views, especially those about reprinting stories, but I feel that she is wrong about sophistication in comics. In addition to plot, comics have to put stress on realistic characterization and morality/ethics/meaningfulness, as seen in the works of Thomas, Engelhart, McGregor and Gerber. If they are to continue in a respectable and worthwhile form.

Simplistic comics may have a place in the field but I doubt it. If there is not something more to a comic book than a battle, it is essentially worthless. This lack is probably why sales have been bad on even the major sellers in recent years. The readership has become more intelligent and as a result have generally rejected those comics which lack substance. The Marvel annuals are a good example of this lack. The ERB books were okay for adaptations, Howard was decent and the Warlock/Avengers annual was excellent. So far, the rest have been ridiculous. Why should an annual (or any comic) be published unless it contains a story that is worth telling? The companies should strive for a high(er) level of

quality and workmanship or just forget the entire thing.

Regular interviews would be a nice addition to TCR. The views of the writers and artists are an important part of the news and regular interviews would also help to prevent "the prevailing cover story" that Englehart mentioned in #141. Interviews with non-overground comics people such as Corben, Wrightson, Brunner, Jeff Jones, Barry Smith, Larry Todd, Kaluta, Bob Gould, Byron Preiss (Visual Publications), Jan Kubert (Sojourn), Craig Russell, Steve Englehart, Mike Friedrich and Dan McGregor, on how they feel about comics and what projects they are currently involved in. If interviews are impossible to arrange, etc., at least try to keep us more informed on these people and what they are doing.

Was the Walt Disney/Marvel lawsuit ended by an out-of-court settlement? I think that Disney is stupid to even suggest plagiarization, since the characters involved are so different and Donald is a funny-humor book, while Howard is a satire-criticism book.

ANTHONY D. BUTLER, 2203 Claredon Lane, Columbus, OH 43223: ...and one more thing, I would like to know when my subscription is up so I can renew it.

[Every so often, this question comes up in our mail, and we should have mentioned this every so often. Mail subscribers' address stencils include a number on the line after their name which lists the last number of their subscription. Most of our readers realized that, but some of you didn't notice it. JS]

DONALD POOLE, 331 Noble Avenue, Akron, OH 44320: ...One thing that did disappoint me about #148 was the absence of news on Roy Thomas' mags. I find it hard to believe that Roy, who used TCR as a forum against Englehart a couple of months ago, would now refuse to give out any information. In my mind, Roy would seem to be the last writer that would not want to be bothered. I guess that the life of California has swelled Roy's head in this matter. I don't see why Roy cannot give out the news and I hope you can find some other way to obtain news of his comics.

Who or what was the little drawing of the figure in the UPC white space on the DEFENDERS cover (pg. 3, TCR #148) and what is he saying?

[I clipped that diminutive sketch of Dan Ho singing TINY BUBBLES from the bottom border of the cover slot we received. George Perez and Ernie Chan's joke. JS]

Et Al

A new ground-level comics publisher has surfaced: Power Comics. Begun a little over a year ago in Lansing, MI, the company has published five issues of POWER COMICS and has recently begun giving characters that debuted in POWER their own titles. Thus far they've been

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super-hero oriented and have featured: (#1) Nightwitch, (#2), Cobalt Blue, (#3) Nightwitch, (#4) Northern Light (by James Waley and Jim Craig), and (#5) Bluebird. In addition, the first issue of COBALT BLUE has been published. Edward Langham is the publisher, Mike Gustovich is Story Editor and T. Casey Brennan is Associate Editor. Their releases for October include NIGHTWITCH #1, BLUEBIRD #1, COBALT BLUE #2 and T CASEY BRENNAN'S MYTIC TALES (featuring "T. Casey Brennan, Figure Of Mystery" who has appeared as a backup feature in most of the previous Power Comics; plus a story featuring the Power superheroines meeting in Casablanca). Also slated for near-future release are POWER COMICS #6 with Nightwitch and Bluebird, FANTASY QUARTERLY #1 featuring Elfquest and Wendy Pini, POWER COMICS #7, COBALT BLUE #3,

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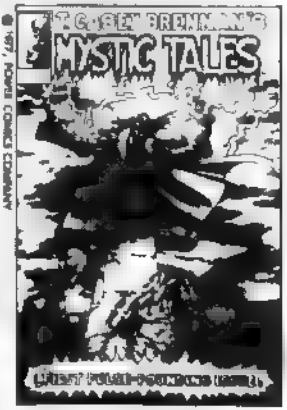
NIGHTWITCH #2, BLUEBIRD #2 and JUSTICE MACHINE #1. The retail price for all the above comics is 50¢; back issues can be obtained from Power Comics at P.O. Box 10029, Lansing, MI 48912. #1 is $1.50, #2 is $1.25, #3-6 are $1.00 each and COBALT BLUE is also $1.00.

The 1977 COMIC ART FAN AWARDS (for material that appeared in books dated 1976) are now being voted on. The final ballot is available from Don Fortier, PO Box 209, Kenner, LA 70063, if you ask for it. The deadline for this voting is now October 25th,



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and if the results are ready, we will have them in the pages of TCR #151. The ballots for the 1978 Awards (material

dated 1977) will be out at the end of October, in an attempt to get the COMIC ART FAN AWARDS back on schedule.

We have a new comic book company -- sort of. Modern Comics (actually Modern Promotion, 155 East 55th, New York, NY 10022) and publisher Ron Gold have apparently bought the reprint rights to the entire Charlton line. Sold three to a plastic bag, so far the titles that have turned up include JUDO MASTER #93, YANG #3, E-MAN #2, WAR #7, MONSTER HUNTERS #1 and CREEPY THINGS #3. If there's a pattern there, I fail to discern it. The comics are reprinted from Charlton's old plates (with new ads) but nowhere in the books or on the covers is Charlton mentioned -- although we understand Charlton is printing them. The copyright says "Tops Photo Engraving." (The bag price is left up to each retailer, although a 35¢ price exists on each cover. At 35¢, the reprints aren't bargains for the collector -- except on a few super-hero titles -- since most Charlton back issues for the past ten years can still be easily obtained for 25¢ each or less. Completists will want them, of course.) Thanks to Bill Maddocks of Arlington Heights, IL for telling us all about this.

Media News

While the rest of the country was bemoaning the loss of Elvis Presley -- in rather strange fashion, I might say, and you know RCA has benefitted greatly just because he died -- I and many of my acquaintances were wondering why the death of someone much dearer to our hearts was being ignored, for the most part. I'm speaking of Groucho Marx. Although it's a difficult choice (considering Laurel and Hardy, W.C. Fields and Buster Keaton), I would say that the Marx Brothers are my favorite comedians of all time -- and Groucho, certainly, the wittiest. His effect upon comedians of today, from David Steinberg to Bill Cosby to Alan Alda, is immeasurable. His effect upon me is immeasurable. From the best of the Marx Brothers films (my own favorite is DUCK SOUP) to the least (THE BIG STORE or ROOM SERVICE) to YOU BET YOUR LIFE and any of Groucho's solo appearances, I can't think of any that I wouldn't go out of my way to see, more than once. Groucho will always be around to watch and I'd wager that one hundred years from now they'll still be laughing. Elvis won't last that long. But Groucho didn't get half-hour network tributes, none of our local stations dug a Marx Brothers film out to show, and the newspapers were more concerned with the dispute over his state and the multi-funerals than how much Groucho

Marx contributed to our happiness and our culture. So I am. Thank you, Groucho Marx.

The STAR WARS phenomenon continues to affect the thinking of movie and TV execs. Dino DeLaurentiis has acquired the television and film rights to someone you all know: Flash Gordon. George Lucas apparently was thinking about doing STAR WARS as a Flash Gordon film originally, and something changed his plans.

In any event, Dino will probably do for Flash Gordon what he did for King Kong. I don't know if that's bad or good... ABC, in the meantime, ever-ready to vault into heretofore uncharted territory, has put top priority on readying something called STAR WORLDS for imminent broadcast. Way to go... The producers have been named for the upcoming Paramount Network version of STAR TREK. They are Robert Goodwin and Harold Livingston. Livingston was, most recently, story editor of FUTURE COP...

And, of course, STAR WARS II will appear next year in all probability. George Lucas, however, will only produce, allowing someone else to write and direct.

A few months back I mentioned that it seemed like 1966 again, with announced plans for STAR TREK, MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E. and the NEW AVENGERS coming in. (I've heard nothing further about the U.N.C.L.E. project, however.) Feelings of nostalgia continue; Sheldon Leonard and Bill Cosby are teaming

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RALPH, featuring you know who from you know what.

NBC has also scheduled a mess of potential replacements. Most noteworthy is their order for fifteen hours of BUCK ROGERS (they want their STAR WARS too). Other pilots being looked at include LAWMAN WITHOUT A GUN (with Lou Gossett, a present day sheriff in a southern town), ABEL (Andy Griffith, again playing a sheriff in a small southern town), PETER LUNDY AND THE MEDICINE HAT STALLION (with teen star Leif Garrett), SUSAN (a series built around the WOMAN ON THE RUN TV movie on a week or so ago -- a female FUGITIVE) ARTHUR AMONG THE ANIMALS (an MTM production), PROJECT BLUEBOARD (a Jack

up again in the same roles they performed on I SPY. Leonard is Executive Producer of a new spy series pilot movie that Cosby will star in (probably not as Alexander Scott, though)... LUCAN, the ABC-TV project that is based upon THE JUNGLE BOOK and crossed with TARZAN, is back as one of those semi-series (like WONDER WOMAN was), appearing monthly or so. Alright, who's gonna do the LUCAN comic book? NBC in fact, has most of [illegible] season replacements in production already. Included are a new hour LASSIE series, FANTASY ISLAND (based upon the film that aired last season), KEEPER (a series set in WWII in Lisbon with Robert Conrad and Michael O'Hare as bar owners), ROCK FOLLIES (based upon the British hit series; it's too bad that American networks insist that we're too provincial to accept the British originals), McNAMARA'S BAND (the very adept John Byner and others as 1940s gangsters who are actually army intelligence agents who go on secret missions in Europe), [illegible] CHAZEN [illegible] APPLE PIE [illegible] TABLE [illegible] THE [illegible] PRIMARY [illegible] USER CLASS [illegible]

[illegible] MARY [illegible] SUGAR TIME [illegible]

[illegible]

company). Other pilots on the boards include HALLELUJAH, U.S.A., a black comedy variety show, an hour variety musical series starring Shaun Cassidy, a 90 minute late-night comedy-variety show called the GREAT AMERICAN LAUGH-OFF (by LAUGH-IN producer George Schlatter), another 90 minute, late-night show called COMEDY NEWS, which spoofs 60 MINUTES from David Frost and Co., BEAUTIES, a variety version of BLANSKY'S BEAUTIES (!), and six segments of CAR WASH (this could be for ABC). Also, ABC has more episodes of FUTURE COP planned. They sure are perseverant.

ROLLING STONE says that Arnold Schwartzenegger is signed for five CONAN films. That doesn't necessarily mean there will BE five CONAN films... FOREVER FERNWOOD, the incarnation of MARY HARTMAN, MARY HARTMAN without Louise Lasser, will debut October 23. Tab Hunter has joined the cast. FERNWOOD 2 NIGHT, which didn't do spectacularly well in the ratings, still might continue if they sign up enough stations. So far they have 28.

Chuck Jones fans should be delighted by this bit of news: Chuck is doing a new comic strip for the Chicago Tribune-New York News Syndicate called CRAWFORD. Crawford is a child who bears some resemblance to the Ralph Phillips character Jones did a few Warner Brothers cartoons with... The Register & Tribune Syndicate ad in the Syndicate Directory issue of EDITOR & PUBLISHER describes the upcoming CONAN THE BARBARIAN strip in this way: "The Cimmerian With Gigantic Mirth." That does not bode well for Conan fans, I'd say. Sounds a bit like HAGAR THE HORRIBLE, doesn't it?

- Ilona Bluebird

ARCHIE'S PALS 'N' GALS No. 119, December. [9/27]

ARCHIE'S JOKEBOOK No. 239, December. [9/27]

BETTY AND VERONICA No. 264, December. [9/27]

PEP No. 332, December. [9/27]

ARCHIE No. 267, December. [9/27]

LITTLE ARCHIE No. 125, December. [10/4]

ARCHIE AND ME No. 97, December. [10/4]

REGGIE AND ME No. 101, December. [10/4]

LAUGH No. 321, December. [10/4]

LIFE WITH ARCHIE No. 188, December. [10/4]

JUGHEAD No. 271, December. [10/4]

SABRINA, THE TEEN-AGE WITCH No. 43, December. [10/11]

BETTY AND ME No. 89, December. [10/11]

ARCHIE COMICS DIGEST No. 27, December. [10/11]

ARCHIE'S TV LAUGH OUT No. 54, December. [10/18]

EVERYTHING'S ARCHIE No. 62, December. [10/18]

ARCHIE AT RIVERDALE No. 50, December. [10/18]

THE JUGHEAD JONES COMICS DIGEST No. 3, December. [10/18]

ST Pocket Checklist

October 1977

Marvel

- ☐ THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #176
- ☐ THE AVENGERS #167
- ☐ BLACK PANTHER #7
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #217
- ☐ CAPTAIN MARVEL #54
- ☐ THE CHAMPIONS #17
- ☐ CONAN THE BARBARIAN #82
- ☐ CRAZY #33
- ☐ DAREDEVIL #150
- ☐ THE DEFENDERS #55
- ☐ DYNOMUTT #2
- ☐ THE ETERNALS #19
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR #190
- ☐ GODZILLA #8
- ☐ HOWARD THE DUCK #20
- ☐ THE HUMAN FLY #5
- ☐ THE INCREDIBLE HULK #219
- ☐ THE INVADERS #24
- ☐ IRON MAN #106
- ☐ JOHN CARTER, WARLORD OF MARS #8
- ☐ MARVEL CLASSICS COMICS #31 [A Xmas Carol]
- ☐ MARVEL CLASSICS COMICS #32 [Prince & Pauper]
- ☐ MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS #75
- ☐ MARVEL PREVIEW #12 [Haunt Of Horror]
- ☐ MARVEL SPECIAL EDITION - STAR WARS #2
- ☐ MARVEL SUPER-ACTION #5
- ☐ MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #69
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #87
- ☐ MARVEL TEAM-UP #65
- ☐ MARVEL TRIPLE ACTION #39
- ☐ MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #35
- ☐ MASTER OF KUNG FU #60
- ☐ MS. MARVEL #13
- ☐ NOVA #17
- ☐ PIZZAZZ #2
- ☐ THE RAMPAGING HULK #8
- ☐ RAWHIDE KID #143
- ☐ RED SONJA #7
- ☐ THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #25
- ☐ THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #14
- ☐ SPIDEY SUPER STORIES #30
- ☐ STAR WARS #7
- ☐ TARZAN, LORD OF THE JUNGLE #8
- ☐ THOR #267
- ☐ TOMB OF DRACULA #62
- ☐ YOGI BEAR #2

Warren

- ☐ EERIE #89

National Lampoon

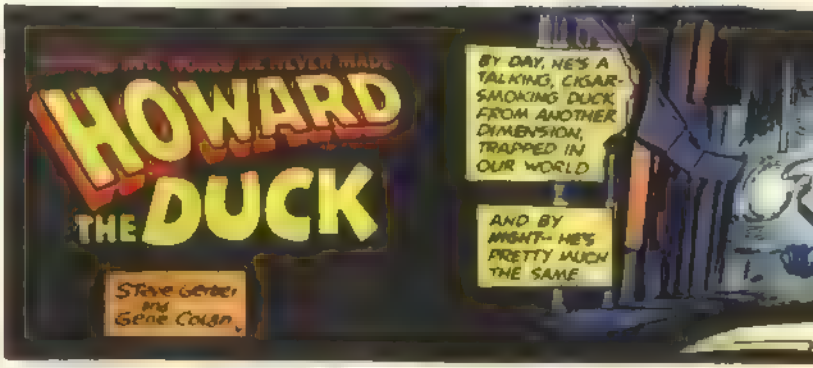
- ☐ HEAVY METAL #8
- ☐ NATIONAL LAMPOON #92 [Dirty Old Man]

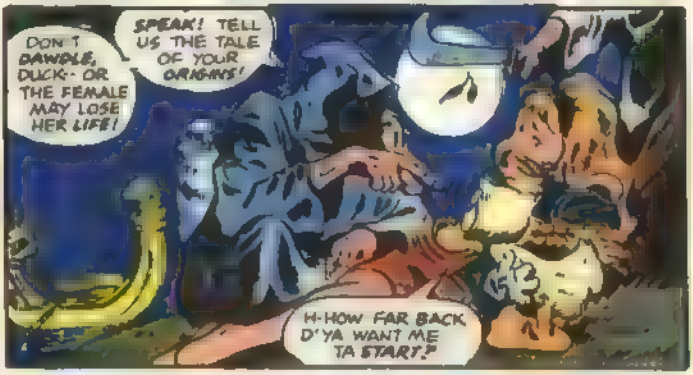
DC

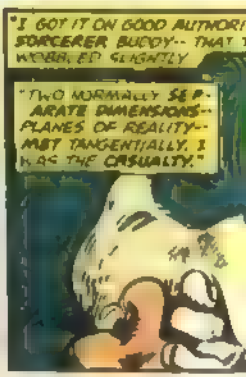
- ☐ ACTION COMICS #479
- ☐ ADVENTURE COMICS #455
- ☐ ALL-NEW COLLECTORS EDITION C-53 [Rudolph]
- ☐ ALL-NEW COLLECTORS EDITION C-54 5 Vs. WW1
- ☐ ALL STAR COMICS #70
- ☐ BATMAN #295
- ☐ BLACK LIGHTNING #6
- ☐ THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD #139
- ☐ DC SUPER-STARS #18 [Deadman & Phantom Str.]
- ☐ DOORWAY TO NIGHTMARE #1
- ☐ THE FLASH #257
- ☐ FREEDOM FIGHTERS #12
- ☐ GHOSTS #60
- ☐ GREEN LANTERN #100
- ☐ HOUSE OF MYSTERY #256
- ☐ JONAH HEX #8
- ☐ JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA #150
- ☐ KARATE KID #12
- ☐ MEN OF WAR #4
- ☐ OUR FIGHTING FORCES #177
- ☐ SECRET SOCIETY OF SUPER VILLAINS #12
- ☐ SGT. ROCK #312
- ☐ SHAZAM #33
- ☐ SUPERBOY & THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES #235
- ☐ SUPERMAN #319
- ☐ THE SUPERMAN FAMILY #187
- ☐ THE UNEXPECTED #183
- ☐ UNKNOWN SOLDIER #211
- ☐ WEIRD WAR TALES #59
- ☐ WEIRD WESTERN TALES #43
- ☐ WELCOME BACK, KOTTER #9
- ☐ THE WITCHING HOUR #76
- ☐ WONDER WOMAN #239

Gold Key

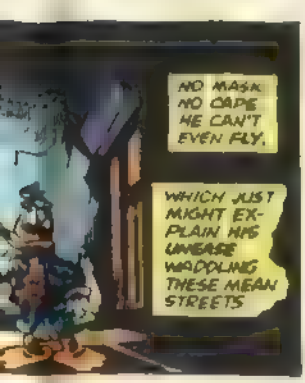
- ☐ THE BEAGLE BOYS #39
- ☐ BORIS KARLOFF TALES OF MYSTERY #79
- ☐ BUGS BUNNY #191
- ☐ DAFFY DUCK #112
- ☐ DONALD DUCK #190
- ☐ FAT ALBERT AND THE COSBY KIDS #22
- ☐ HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUIE #47
- ☐ THE INSPECTOR #18
- ☐ LITTLE MONSTERS #43
- ☐ LOONEY TUNES #17
- ☐ MICKEY MOUSE #178
- ☐ MOBY DUCK #29
- ☐ RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT! #74
- ☐ TOM AND JERRY #30
- ☐ TWEETY AND SYLVESTER #76
- ☐ UNCLE SCROOGE #147
- ☐ UNDERDOG #16
- ☐ WALT DISNEY SHOWCASE #42 [M & The Sleuth]
- ☐ WALT DISNEY'S COMICS AND STORIES #447
- ☐ YOSEMITE SAM AND BUGS BUNNY #49

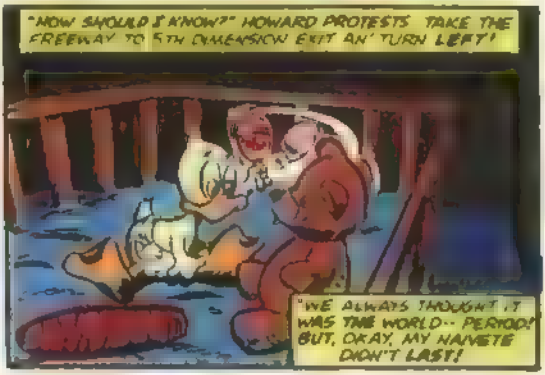

HOWARD THE DUCK
Steve Gerber and Gene Colan
BY DAY, HE'S A TALKING, CIGAR-SMOKING DUCK FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION, TRAPPED IN OUR WORLD
AND BY NIGHT-- HE'S PRETTY MUCH THE SAME

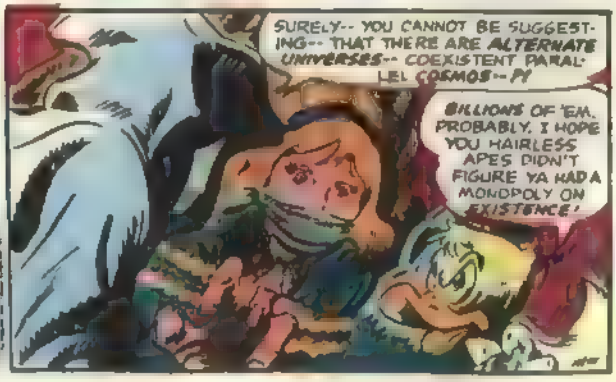



"I GOT IT ON GOOD AUTHORITY SORCERER BUDDY-- THAT WOBBLED SLIGHTLY
"TWO NORMALLY SEPARATE DIMENSIONS-- PLANES OF REALITY-- MET TANGENTIALLY. I WAS THE CASUALTY."

The Menomonee Falls GAZETTE is now restarting publication for the task of bringing comic fans newspaper strips like HOWARD THE DUCK (daily & Sunday, in b&w), SUPERMAN, BATMAN, POPEYE, MODESTY BLAISE, and more in a special newspaper format designed for comic collectors. The GAZETTE will be published twice a month and will contain one or two weeks each of these great newspaper strips in each issue. The GAZETTE is returning to fandom, and in the past it was voted one of the greatest fan publications by both the COMIC ART FAN AWARDS and the professionals' Academy Of The Comic Book Arts' SHAZAM AWARDS. Send in your subscription today for the newspaper strip publication that is designed and put out just for you. Subscription rates are $9 for 12 issues, $18 for 26 issues, in the U.S.

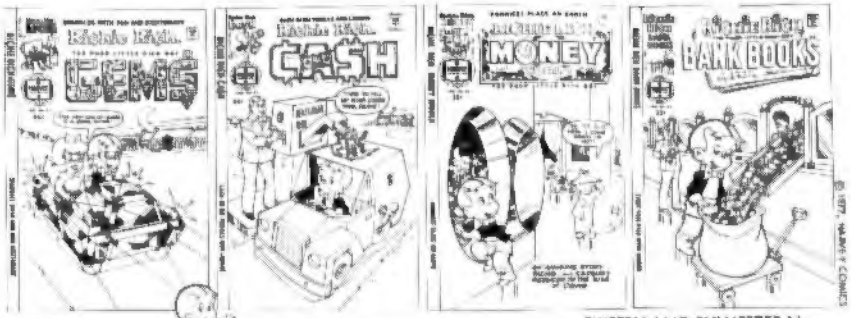



"HOW SHOULD I KNOW?" HOWARD PROTESTS TAKE THE FREEWAY TO 5TH DIMENSION EXIT AN' TURN LEFT!
"WE ALWAYS THOUGHT IT WAS THE WORLD-- PERIOD! BUT, OKAY, MY NAIVETE DIDN'T LAST!


SURELY-- YOU CANNOT BE SUGGESTING-- THAT THERE ARE ALTERNATE UNIVERSES-- COEXISTENT PARALLEL COSMOS-- P!
BILLIONS OF 'EM, PROBABLY. I HOPE YOU HAIRLESS APES DIDN'T FIGURE YA HAD A MONOPOLY ON EXISTENCE!

Subscription rates outside the United States, due to increased postage costs, are $12 for 12 issues, and $26 for 26 issues. Copies are are available for resale to dealers at ten copies of an issue for 45¢ each, twenty five or more copies of an issue for 40¢ each. The cover price of The Menomonee Falls GAZETTE is 75¢. Due to demand on the first revived issues of the GAZETTE, they are not available in quantity.

STREET ENTERPRISES -- POST OFFICE BOX 253 -- MENOMONEE FALLS, WI 53051



Harvey Coming Comics

RICHIE RICH VAULTS OF MYSTERY No. 20, January. [10/6]

RICHIE RICH CASH No. 21, January. [10/6]

RICHIE RICH GEMS No. 21, January. [10/6]

RICHIE RICH DIAMONDS No. 34, January. 50¢. [10/6]

RICHIE RICH RICHES No. 34, January. [10/13]

SAD SACK No. 260, January. [10/13]

RICHIE RICH MONEY WORLD No. 33, January. [10/13]

RICHIE RICH COLLECTOR'S COMICS No. 15, January. Reprinted are two issues of RICHIE RICH AND CASPER. [10/13]

RICHIE RICH No. 162, January. [10/20]

RICHIE RICH BANK BOOKS No. 33, January. [10/20]

DEVIL KIDS No. 86, January. [10/20]

RICHIE RICH BILLIONS No. 21, January. 50¢. [10/20]

RICHIE RICH FORTUNES No. 38, January. [10/27]

SAD SACK AND THE SARGE No. 129, January. [10/27]

RICHIE RICH MILLIONS No. 87, January. 50¢. [10/27]

RICHIE RICH GOLD AND SILVER No. 16, January. [10/27]

Gold Key Coming Comics

Walt Disney DONALD DUCK No. 190, December. Reprints. [10/6]

TOM AND JERRY No. 301, December. Reprints. [10/6]

Walt Disney MICKEY MOUSE No. 178, December. Reprints except two new pages. [10/6]

THE INSPECTOR No. 18, December. New. [10/6]

YOSEMITE SAM And Bugs Bunny No. 49, December. New. [10/6]

Walt Disney HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUIE No. 47, December. New. [10/6]

WALT DISNEY SHOWCASE No. 42, January. This issue features a new MICKEY AND THE SLEUTH story. [10/6]

Walt Disney UNCLE SCROOGE No. 147, December. [10/13]

BUGS BUNNY No. 191, December. New. [10/13]

LOONEY TUNES No. 17, December. New. [10/13]

BORIS KARLOFF TALES OF MYSTERY No. 79, December. New. [10/13]

Walt Disney BEAGLE BOYS No. 39, December. [10/13]

FAT ALBERT And The Cosby Kids No. 22, December. New. [10/13]

Walt Disney MOBY DUCK No. 29, January. New. [10/13]

TWEETY AND SYLVESTER No. 76, December. New. [10/20]

WALT DISNEY COMICS AND STORIES No. 447, December. 13 pages are new, 28 pages are reprint. This is the first of Gold Key's experimental 48 page, 50¢ titles. [10/20]

LITTLE MONSTERS No. 43, December. Reprints. [10/20]

UNDERDOG No. 16, December. New stories. [10/20]

DAFFY DUCK No. 112, December. New. [10/20]

RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT! No. 74, December. Another 48 pager for 50¢, 23 pages of which are new, 16 reprints. [10/20]

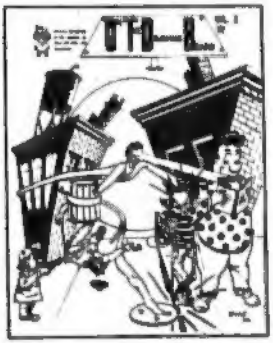
TCR History

ROBERT SCHOENFELD

[Following is chapter four of the History of THE COMIC READER. As such, it is a bit confusing as it involves a name change. ON THE DRAWING BOARD was a column title in TCR which contained the news portion of the issue; in 1966, Darrill Rathermich split the two and began renumbering with V2#1. Bob Schoenfeld took over with V2#3 and published through V2#17 before allowing Mark Honerfeld to take over, his first being V3#1. But, Schoenfeld put V2#18 out after Honerfeld took ON THE DRAWING BOARD, sub-numbering the issue TCR #66. Honerfeld had started sub-numbering with #65 and he too put out TCR #66. In any case, eighteen issues of either of the two titles appeared in a space (between #48 and #65) which should only hold seventeen; we consider the two #66's as sections of the same issue. MT]

Luckily, I have saved at least one copy of each issue of TCR (or its variants), or my sketchy memory would probably provide a somewhat inaccurate picture of those years.

Glen Johnson was the editor and publisher of TCR when I first came into fandom and he did a fine job for many years when he finally decided to turn it over to someone else. He selected a resident fan in Missouri named Derrill Rothermich, who at the time was going to school in Rolla. In Derrill's hands, TCR was expanded from the ditto'ed news-oriented publication of Glen Johnson to the offset-printed and more general type content in addition to the news column which at that time was coming from David Keler, a writer in New York, who at that time had done a few scripts for Charlton.



Unfortunately, after a brief tenure as editor and publisher, Derrill began running into difficulties. He had overextended himself financially by trying to put out more magazine than the thin budget of the publication would really allow. It was me who originally suggested that if putting out a general fanzine was his intent, he might be wiser to separate the news into its own publication instead of a small column in a larger one. This was resulting in late news at times as the COMIC READER grew thicker with articles and fan art. Derrill liked the idea and so was born ON THE DRAWING BOARD — previously the old news column headline — now a thin newsletter.

The first issue was Vol. 2, No. 1 — totally Derrill's work and even with his return address in Rolla. Derrill's brief editorial on the last page reflects the somewhat chaotic nature of organized fandom at the time as the "Executive Secretary" of something unnamed [The Academy Of Comic Art Fans And Collectors] is passed from someone unnamed to Mr. Keler, who, it must be said, did as fine a job in the position as his predecessor.

Volume 2, No. 2 is another six pager entirely put together by Derrill. Two and a half pages of news, half page editorial by Derrill in which he explains that he is turning over the publication of the newsletter to myself and the members of a local fan group which had been formed at the time in St. Louis. The issue is rounded out by a page of Academy news and a page and a half of advertising for Marvin Wolfman's fanzines at the time. Academy news was an integral part of TCR as its function was to serve as the focal point of what was fandom's first organized effort.

Vol. 2, No. 3 was the last issue edited by Derrill and the first to carry my return address. Besides the news, this issue featured a few personal innovations, the most notable being a full front cover done by Alan Hutchinson. Besides an advert for a first St. Louis comicon, the issue closed with one of my early artistic and editorial expressions in the form of a cartoon asking if organized fandom (the Academy, et al.) weren't more trouble than it was worth.

Vol. 2, No. 4 — suddenly everything changed. Derrill's personal life intervened and he entered the military service. His publication of TCR went under and all the art and articles he'd accumulated showed up one day in a box at my door with a long letter. This meant for openers that we went back to calling it THE COMIC READER on the cover and ON THE DRAWING BOARD reverted to the heading on the news column which was still coming from David Keler. We attempted to publish monthly but found the news to be somewhat irregular. My first issue ran ten ditto'ed pages. I did all the typing and all the art-mastering which included a three-color Ken Keller cover. Inside, besides the news, Derrill bid farewell to fandom and David Keler and others discussed Academy problems.

Vol. 2, No. 5 contained my first and last front cover art. Besides being a very poor like of Charlton's Thunderbolt, I misnumbered the cover as Vol. 2, No. 6. The issue ran ten ditto'ed pages. The ditto'ed issues were, by the way, run off on Steve Gerber's ditto machine. Print run on these issues was small due to the mailing list of less than 500 names, probably owing to the considerable confusion generated by the many name and editor changes in the short span of time. This issue was the same as the last except that I took the liberty of introducing the various local projects I was pushing at the time. Besides the convention, I began putting together the idea of a new general fanzine that I would

publish putting to use all the material that Derrill had accumulated and passed on to me. I felt that most of this material did not belong in a news-type publication and I felt it deserved to be run. Thus was born GOSH WOW! (or at least the idea of it, anyway). I went on in my editorial to introduce the various people who at that time were being pushed (by me) to contribute to getting all these endeavors off the ground.

Vol. 2, No. 6 was my first effort at an offset type of printing. Also featured was my first fanzine review column featuring in-depth type reviews by Bill Spicer and a complete listing by John McGeehan. Advertising for the first issue of GOSH WOW! and the first WALLY WOOD ET CETERA (eventually WITZEND) were also included.

Vol. 2, No. 7 began to take the shape I envisioned and

the look it would largely maintain throughout most of my tenure. Print run was up to 500 copies, mostly paid subscribers. Still contained long Academy wrangling -- something in retrospect I'm sure put people off.

Issues from that time on were pretty consistent, being 8 to 12 pages with full covers, news by Dave Kaler, fanzine listings, editorials and the inevitable Academy forum. By #10, I was attempting to incorporate something of a newspaper-type fan comic strip. These were usually short things. I strove for good fan art covers and nice interior illustrations. Some issues looked a little better than others; No. 15 had a spectacular cover, I thought, by Dick Memorich. Also by this issue, the 500 copy print run was beginning to be inadequate. The consistency of some ten odd issues had caused subscriptions to rise.

No. 16 was somewhat different being sixteen pages long and wrap-around printed. Commentary in this issue was by Larry Brody (anyone know where he is now?). No. 17 was the last issue I did as the old magazine. David Kaler, who provided news through No. 16, suddenly quit and the news for No. 17 came to me from Mark Honerfeld. Kaler had also contributed funds that had kept the subscriptions at an artificially low level for some time (as an Academy-supported publication). This too stopped from Kaler and threw TCR into an economic shock from which it never recovered. Mark Honerfeld decided he could do a better job of disseminating the the news from New York and he effectively took over TCR on his own at this time after Kaler's bail-out.

No. 18 was the last. I attempted to fill the pages with interesting reading material in the interest of keeping some kind of publication alive. Without the regular news feature though, the magazine had little purpose. Reader support and subscriptions were at a high level but it was finally the end of the Academy and my tenure.

My first issue to contain a printed date was No. 6, which was dated October, 1966. The last was No. 17, which was January, 1968. The specific before and after dates are uncertain. At its peak at the end, we were printing 1000 copies and sending more than 2/3 to paid subscribers. Our schedule was never perfect, but we managed to be fairly consistent and I enjoyed being editor even for a short time. Mark Honerfeld's first issue was out even before my last, if memory serves me correctly, and I bowed out.

I guess I am proudest of taking over at about sixteen years old in a time of chaos and of holding the mag together and improving it from issue to issue in an attempt to give it the consistency that it has finally achieved under your direction.

Best wishes,
Bob Schoenfeld

[Bob wants us to mention that anyone who has an outstanding subscription to GOSH WOW! and wishes a refund need only send their current address to Bob at Box 15856, St. Louis, MO 63114 and it will be done.]

Marvel Coming Comics

DAREDEVIL No. 150, January. "Catastrophe" is by Jim Shooter, Carmine Infantino and Klaus Janson. Daredevil trails The Purple Man but reckons without the interference of Paladin, a hero-villain who causes the death of one of the supporting cast. Gil Kane and Frank Giacoia did the cover. [10/4]

GODZILLA No. 6, January. "A Monster Enslaved" is by Doug Moench, Herb Trimpe and an undetermined inker. S.H.I.E.L.D. has captured Godzilla. Now... what to do with him? Trimpe and

Frank Giacoia did the cover. [10/4]

THE HUMAN FLY No. 5, January. "Fire In The Night" is by Bill Mantlo, Frank Robbins and Rod Santiago. The Fly must scale a towering inferno to rescue children on the roof. Robbins and Joe Sinnott did the cover. [10/4]

THE INVADERS No. 24, January. Another reprint is featured this issue, "The Human Torch and The Sub-Mariner Fighting Side By Side" by Carl Burgos and Bill Everett. Gil Kane and Frank Giacoia did the cover. [10/4]

MARVEL SUPER-ACTION No. 5, January. Returning to CAPTAIN AMERICA, a story from #103, "The Weakest Link" by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Syd Shores, is reprinted. [10/4]

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES No. 69, January. "At Last I Will Have My Revenge!" is reprinted from HULK #114 and is by Stan Lee, Herb Trimpe and Dan Adkins.

Trimpe did the original cover. [10/4]

MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE No. 25, January. "Enter Skull The Slayer and Exit The Thing" is by Marv Wolfman and Ernie Chan. Ben Grimm falls through a hole in the Bermuda Triangle and meets Skull. Is Ben trapped forever? Chan did the cover. [10/4]

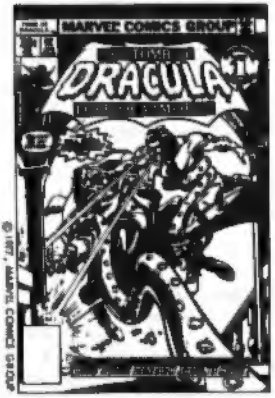
TOMB OF DRACULA No. 62, January. "What Lurks Beneath Satan's Hill?" is by Marv Wolfman, Gene Colan and Tom Palmer. Topaz returns and Dracula has to battle Janus, his son. Colan and Palmer did the cover. [10/4]

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN No. 176, January. "He Who Laughs Last" is by Len Wein, Ross Andru and Jim Mooney. You'll never believe who's returning from the past to haunt Spidey (with the initials G.G.). The cover is by Andru and Frank Giacoia. [10/11]

CAPTAIN AMERICA No. 217, January. "The Search For Steve Rogers" is by Roy Thomas, Don Glut, John Buscema and Pablo Marcos. Cap has to face the fighting fury of the fantastic forces of S.H.I.E.L.D. not to mention The Crusader and The Texas Twister. Buscema and Joe Sinnott did the cover. [10/11]

DYNOMUTT No. 2, January. Mr. Mastermind causes the Blue Falcon plenty of headaches when he short circuits Dyno. Mark Evanier and Paul Norris did the issue. [10/11]

THE ETERNALS No. 19, January. "The Pyramid" is by Jack Kirby and Mike Royer. Ikarus' mad cousin Druig unleashes a menace from The Pyramid and causes the end of The Eternals -- and possibly Earth as well.



This is the final issue. Kirby and Frank Giacoia did the cover. [10/11]

MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS No. 73, January. From FF #93, "At The Mercy Of Targo" by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Frank Giacoia, is reprinted. Kirby and Giacoia did the original cover. [10/11]

MARVEL TRIPLE ACTION No. 39, January. From AVENGERS #47, "Magneto Walks The Earth!" by Stan Lee, John Buscema and George Tuska, is reprinted. Dan Heck did the original cover. [10/11]

MASTER OF KUNG FU No. 60, January. "End-Game" is by Doug Moench, Mike Zeck and

John Tartaglione. Dr. Doom and the Prime Mover finish off their deadly chess game. Ernie Chan did the cover. [10/11]

MS. MARVEL No. 13, January. "Homecoming" is by Chris Claremont, Jim Mooney and Joe Sinnott. Carol Danvers returns to her ancestral home of Boston where she winds up battling two aliens aboard Old Ironsides. The cover is by George Perez and Joe Sinnott (maybe). [10/11]

THE RAMPAGING HULK No. 6, January. "And All The Sea With Monsters" stars the Hulk and is by Doug Moench, Keith Pollard and Tony DeZuniga. Hulk finishes his battle with The Sub-Mariner. Plus Bloodstone, in "Conspiracy Ascendant" by John David Warner, Paul Kupperberg and Sonny Trinidad. Ken Barr did the cover. [10/11]

RED SONJA No. 7, January. "Throne Of Blood" is this issue's story by Roy Thomas, Clara Nata and Frank Thorne. Thorne did